

AUDITION REGULATIONS

DUTCH CLASSICAL TALENT 2026|2027

Spring 2025

Candidates

1. Dutch Classical Talent is open to young musicians (instrumentalists and vocalists) who can perform an attractive and interesting chamber music program for a wide audience.
2. Candidates can register as soloist, duo or ensemble.
3. By soloist we mean an instrumentalist without accompaniment or a vocalist with accompaniment (age accompanist under 40). Vocalists clearly present themselves as a soloist. We consider a 'lied' program as a duo.
4. By ensemble we mean a fixed duo or a larger ensemble with a maximum of six members.
5. The jury assesses all registrations and candidates on suitability for the tour and the coaching process.
6. Instrumentalists cannot be older than 28 years at the time of the audition. For vocalists the maximum age limit is 30 years. The average age of an ensemble cannot be higher than 28.
7. Candidates with a Dutch nationality must follow or have completed a performing master's program at a Dutch or foreign conservatory.
8. At the time of applying for the auditions, candidates with a foreign nationality must have studied for at least two years at a Dutch conservatory in a performing specialization. For ensembles at least half should meet this requirement.
9. Candidates should hand in a letter of recommendation with signature and an approval of the 60 minutes program proposal from their teacher or a renowned musician.
10. Candidates may audition one more time after rejection. In all cases, participation in the Dutch Classical Talent Tour and the coaching process is possible only once.
11. It is not possible to participate in the auditions as a soloist and as a member of an ensemble with the same program.
12. Candidates can register for multiple formations, but they can participate in the tour in one formation only. The jury will decide which formation will participate in the Dutch Classical Talent tour.

Auditions

13. The auditions consist of two rounds: both without audience.
14. A maximum of 35 candidates will be admitted to the first round. A maximum of 8 candidates will be admitted to the second round.
15. Registration takes place in the order in which fully completed registration forms are received.
16. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
17. In case of doubt, the organization of Dutch Classical Talent decides on audition admission on the advice of the artistic director.
18. Candidates will be notified of the time of their audition no later than two weeks before the first audition round. The time cannot be changed.

19. The audition for the first round will last a maximum of 15 minutes and the second round a maximum of 20 minutes.

20. Candidates submit a suitable program for a recital of approximately 60 minutes without intermission. The final tour program is drawn up during the coaching process in consultation with the program coach.

21. Candidates must fill in the correct time duration of all compositions and movements.

22. The program proposal for the tour should include a short motivation of approximately 100 to 300 words.

23. The program of the first and second round should contain different repertoire but may correspond to the recital program of 60 minutes. The program is submitted to the jury and changed if necessary.

24. In the week before the audition, the jury will announce the final repertoire selection of the first round.

Jury

25. The jury for the audition rounds consists of five to nine members; the jury can be expanded with external expert(s).

26. The decision of the jury is not open for discussion.

27. The jury can assess the audition program and make changes in the selections if necessary. The final audition selection will be announced the week before the first round.

28. At the end of the first audition round the jury will choose a maximum of eight candidates for the second audition round.

29. The jury will choose four finalists at the end of the second audition round and distribute the available bursary.

30. After the second audition round, the rejected candidates may speak to the jury by phone.

31. The jury can base their selection on the objectives of Dutch Classical Talent. There will be no correspondence on these decisions.

General provisions

32. A grand piano is present during the auditions and final. Candidates must bring other instruments themselves. Candidates are also responsible for their own transportation and page-turners. There is no expense reimbursement available.

33. By doing audition in the second round, candidates commit to the possibility of becoming one of the four finalists of Dutch Classical Talent who participate in the 18 month finalist program consisting of a coaching program and a concert tour of 14 concerts in The Netherlands.

34. Candidates are encouraged to commission a new composition assignment to a (young) composer in their tour program. The options depend on the Performing Arts Fund. Candidates are assisted in this by Stichting De Suite (which aims to provide attention and guidance to young composers).

35. By signing the registration form candidates declare to agree with the regulations.

36. The organization of Dutch Classical Talent will decide on all matters that are not mentioned in the regulations.